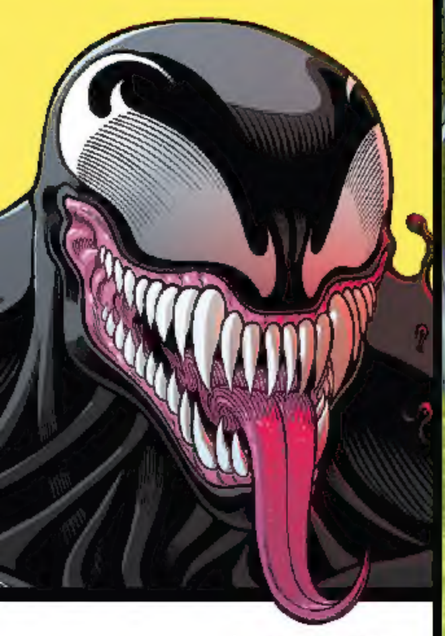
MARVEL



RATED T+

MARVEL.COM

150

DIRECT EDITION

VENOM®

AN OVERSIZED 150TH ISSUE SPECTACULAR!

COSTA
MOORE
SOBREIRO
& MORE!

"It had whispered to him things about himself which he did not know...and the whisper had proved irresistibly fascinating. It echoed loudly within him because he was hollow at the core.

"It was written that I should be loyal to the nightmare of my choice."

-Joseph Conrad, Heart of Darkness.

THIS IS A LOVE STORY.

SHHHH.

HE'S SLEEPING.

THERE WAS A TIME IN MY LIFE WHEN I THOUGHT I HAD EVERYTHING.

A WIFE, THE RESPECT OF MY PEERS, PRESTIGE IN MY FIELD.

THE DAILY GLO

SIN-EATER

IDENTITY REVEALED!!!

BY EDDIE BROCK

BUT RESPECT, PRESTIGE, FAME? THOSE THINGS ARE ILLUSORY.

AND THOSE PEOPLE WHO ONLY WANT YOU FOR ***THOSE*** THINGS DON'T REALLY WANT ***YOU*** AT ALL.

I WAS SO WEAK BACK THEN. SO READY TO ***BREAK.*** I WAS ***HOLLOW.***

BUT THAT WAS WHEN WE ***FOUND*** EACH OTHER.

WHEN I BECAME ***WHOLE.***

THERE ARE ALWAYS PEOPLE WHO WILL SEEK TO ***DESTROY*** YOUR HAPPINESS. PEOPLE YOU MUST ***FIGHT.***

I PROMISED MYSELF I WOULD NEVER BE WEAK AGAIN.

I'LL ADMIT...THERE WAS A TIME WHEN WE WERE ***SEPARATED*** THAT I WANTED TO GIVE UP. I THOUGHT I WOULD ***DIE.***

THE THING ABOUT LOVE IS THAT IT'S NOT ***GENTLE*** OR ***SOFT.*** NOT AT ALL.

LOVE IS ***STRENGTH,*** AND FULL OF TERRIBLE ***PURPOSE.*** LOVE IS POWER, AND IT WILL ***NEVER*** BE DONE WITH YOU.

IT ***CONSUMES*** YOU.

GAH!

EDDDDDIIIEEEE...

EDDDDDIIIEEEE...

LET'S GO OUT, EDDIE.

DRINK THE MOONLIGHT.

LET'S GO OUT.

OKAY.

OKAY...

EDDIE! LOOK!

LOOKS LIKE A BREAK-IN.

STOP THEM. WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!

DEET
DEET
DEET
THE ALARM IS RE-ROUTED. WE'RE GOOD TO GO!
CHOOMF
ONCE YOU'RE IN THE INNER CORE, KEEP IT DOWN TO 20 DECIBELS OR YOU'LL TRIP THE ACOUSTIC TRIGGERS.
OOOOOH, LOOKEE HERE!

TASERS UP! TASERS UP!

E#@% THAT! I'M OUTTA HERE!

HAAA! TICKLES!

THIS IS A BIOTECH FIRM. WHAT ARE YOU TERRORISTS STEALING FROM THEM? BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS?

SOME KIND OF SUPER-BUG?

NOT... TERRORISTS...

...PLEASE...

WE'RE NOT TERRORISTS, MAN! WE'RE A TECHNOLOGY GROUP.

WE'RE JUST HERE ON A B&E JOB! OUR GEAR IS NON-LETHAL!

DROP

STEALING TECHNOLOGY, THEN. FOR WHOSE GAIN?

I GOT IT!

THIS LITTLE SUCKER IS GOING TO MAKE US RICH.

OH.

CRUNCH

HOLY--!

GIVE. IT. TO. US.

I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY! WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE AN EASY SCORE. THE PROPRIETARY SCIENCE IN THIS THING IS WORTH ***MILLIONS.***

HERE. ***TAKE*** IT.

A ***TOMATO...?***

THAT'S... ***ABSURD.***

WE THOUGHT WE WERE STOPPING ***TERRORISTS***

WE THOUGHT...

NO. STOP.

NWWEEEEOOOOU

NWEEEOOOOWW

NWWEEEOO

WHAT... WHAT *HAPPENED* BACK THERE?

WHY DID YOU *DO* THAT?

WANT US TO BE *HEROES*, EDDIE.

LITTLE MEN WERE WHERE THEY DIDN'T *BELONG*. TAKING SOMETHING THAT WASN'T *THEIRS*.

THEY WEREN'T HURTING ANYONE!

THIEVES, EDDIE!

ISN'T THIS WHAT YOU *WANTED*?

WE DON'T BUTCHER MEN FOR BEING *THIEVES*! WHAT WERE WE *THINKING*?

EDDIE WANTS TO BE *HERO*.

EDDIE CAN'T LOOK *STUPID*.

IS WHERE WE *MET!* WE *MET* HERE, EDDIE!

SAD, EDDIE?

NO, MY LOVE.

NO.

WHOZZAT?

SOMEBODY *HERE?*

YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE **SO** *LATE.*

YEAH. THIS PLACE AIN'T *SAFE* NO MORE.

CHICK

NOT TONIGHT, KIDS.

NOT WITH ME.

PLEASE.

YOU KNOW WHAT? #$%& THIS.

YEAH, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE.

WHAP!

SCRAM!

THANK YOU. THE DIOCESE HAS ASKED ME TO TRY TO RESTORE THIS PARISH, BUT THE GANG ACTIVITY HAS GOTTEN MORE AGGRESSIVE.

I CAN SEE YOU'RE A DANGEROUS MAN. HAVE YOU COME FOR BENEDICTION?

SORRY, FATHER. I DON'T BELIEVE IN THE BIG MAN UPSTAIRS ANYMORE.

AND YET YOU'VE COME TO HIS *HOUSE*.

YOU KNOW THE BEING, "GALACTUS"? THE PURPLE **GIANT** FROM SPACE THAT CAME DOWN IN **TIMES SQUARE** ALL THOSE YEARS AGO?

FOUGHT THE **FANTASTIC FOUR?**

HEARD OF HIM.

THE DAY AFTER THAT HAPPENED...EVERYTHING HERE CHANGED. ALMOST **NONE** OF MY PARISHIONERS--MANY WHO'D BEEN COMING FOR **YEARS**--CAME BACK.

BUT THE CHURCH WAS PACKED TO THE **RAFTERS** WITH PEOPLE WHO HAD NEVER **BEEN** BEFORE.

EARTH-EATING GIANTS FROM **SPACE**...THAT CHANGES THE **WORLD.**

BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO MEET AN **ALIEN** FOR YOUR WORLD TO CHANGE.

I... UH...RECENTLY GOT BACK INTO A **RELATIONSHIP.**

THIS IS A **GOOD** THING?

OH, **YES.** I'D BEEN **DREAMING** OF IT. FOR **YEARS.**

AND NOW IT'S HAPPENED... AND IT'S NOT AS YOU'D ***HOPED?*** THINGS HAVE ***CHANGED?***

I WENT THROUGH ***SO MUCH*** TO GET THIS BACK. SO MUCH ***PAIN.***

AND NOW... I ***DID*** SOMETHING TONIGHT I THOUGHT I'D ***NEVER*** DO AGAIN. I THOUGHT THOSE DAYS WOULD BE ***BEHIND*** ME.

YOUR... ***PARNTER*** MADE YOU DO SOMETHING? AND NOW YOU ***REGRET--***

NO.

I WILL ***NEVER*** REGRET THIS REUNION. I COULDN'T GO ON ***LIVING*** WITHOUT IT.

WE'RE ***TOGETHER*** NOW... BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO WE ***ARE*** TOGETHER.

YOU DON'T DO WHAT I DO, FOR AS ***LONG*** AS I'VE DONE IT, WITHOUT SEEING A LOT OF ***TROUBLE.***

NOT ***PHYSICAL*** TROUBLES, LIKE YOU'VE SEEN. BUT ***WORSE*** TROUBLES, MAYBE. TROUBLES OF THE ***HEART*** AND ***SOUL.***

IF SOMEONE *LOVES* YOU, MY SON... THEY DON'T FORCE YOU TO DO THINGS YOU DON'T WANT TO *DO.*

DON'T LIKE THIS MAN, EDDIE.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

I KNOW OBSESSION WHEN I HEAR IT. I KNOW WHAT LOVE TURNS INTO, WHEN IT'S USED TO JUSTIFY *PAIN.*

IT TURNS INTO SOMETHING *UGLY.*

WHAT'S HE *SAYING,* EDDIE? DON'T *LIKE* IT!

I HAVE TO GO.

I'M HERE WHEN YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.

I ONLY DO WHAT *YOU* WANT, EDDIE.

WHAT *WE* WANT.

AND WHAT *DO* WE WANT?

WE WANT TO BE *TOGETHER*, EDDIE. *FOREVER.*

YES, LOVE.

WE WANT TO HURT PEOPLE IN THE WAY. PEOPLE *IN BETWEEN.*

BUT *NOBODY* IS...

I'M JUST *WORRIED* THAT YOU'RE NOT *OKAY.*

THERE IS... ANGER. *HATE.*

SOMETIMES FEEL WEAK. SOMETIMES *STRONG.* EVEN WEAK, WILL KILL *ANYONE* WHO--

EDDIE...

...EDDIE, *BEHIND!*

EDDIE BROCK.

MY PEOPLE AT **ALCHEMAX** TOLD ME YOU WERE CRAWLING AROUND AGAIN.

I'VE GOT **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** WITH YOU. SPECIFICALLY, THAT **NIGHTMARE INSIDE** OF YOU.

WELL THEN, SCORPION...

...LET'S FINISH IT!

THAT'S RIGHT. GET IN CLOSE...

ARE YOU THAT **STUPID,** BROCK?

YOU KNOW I USED TO **WEAR** THAT THING, RIGHT?

I KNOW ITS EVERY **WEAKNESS.** I KNOW THE EXACT **FREQUENCY** TO CAUSE THE MOST **PAIN.** I HAD **ALCHEMAX** OUTFIT ME ACCORDINGLY.

I'LL PULP YOUR HEAD AND BURN THAT THING TO **CINDERS.**

I CAN STILL HEAR THE HORRORS IT WOULD WHISPER IN MY **MIND.**

HE'S **SCARED** OF YOU.

HIS SUIT--

TRYING, EDDIE...

WAIT... WHAT'S--

NO! IT'S IN MY SUIT!

GET IT OUT!

GET OFF! GET IT OFF!

AS IF IT WOULD *EVER* LEAVE ME FOR *YOU.*

TOOK MORE OUT OF ME...

...THAN I THOUGHT.

WHACK

WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE...

CAN'T LET THEM FIND US AND TAKE YOU AWAY...

DON'T WORRY, EDDIE.

ALWAYS TAKE CARE OF YOU.

WON'T LET *ANYONE* GET BETWEEN US.

WH...WHERE AM I?

SAFE, EDDIE. SAFE.

BACK IN THE CHURCH...?

WHERE WE *BONDED*, EDDIE. JUST LIKE *MARRIAGE*.

WHY DID YOU BRING US *HERE*...?

IMPORTANT PLACE, EDDIE. BONDED *FOREVER*. *NO ONE* WILL BREAK THAT BOND.

OH, NO. WHAT DID YOU *DO*?

WHAT *WE* DID, EDDIE. WHAT WE DO TO *ANY* WHO COME BETWEEN US.

NO ONE WILL PULL US APART AGAIN.

TO BE CONTINUED IN VENOM #151!

CONTEMPLATING SUICIDE AFTER HIS LIFE FELL APART, DISGRACED REPORTER EDDIE BROCK SOUGHT FORGIVENESS AT THE SAME CHURCH WHERE SPIDER-MAN WAS REJECTING A LIVING, ALIEN COSTUME CALLED A SYMBIOTE. SENSING BROCK'S MISERY, THE SYMBIOTE BONDED WITH HIM AND IMBUED HIM WITH POWERS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

FOR A TIME, EDDIE TRIED TO BE A HERO. HOWEVER, HIS VIOLENT METHODS OFTEN PUT HIM AT ODDS WITH HEROES AND VILLAINS ALIKE. EVENTUALLY, EDDIE AND THE SYMBIOTE WERE SEPARATED, AND, FOR A TIME, THEY WENT THEIR SEPARATE WAYS.

FOR A TIME, THEY WERE HAPPY LIVING SEPARATELY. BUT WHEN FATE OFFERED THEM THE CHANCE TO REUNITE, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES UNABLE TO RESIST.

TOGETHER OR APART, EDDIE AND THE SYMBIOTE WILL ALWAYS BE...

VENOM

HEART OF DARKNESS

MIKE COSTA
WRITER

TRADD MOORE
ARTIST

FELIPE SOBREIRO
COLOR ARTIST

VC'S CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER

GERARDO SANDOVAL
COVER ARTIST

MARK BAGLEY AND RICHARD ISANOVE [REMASTERED]; CLAYTON CRAIN; GABRIELE DELL'OTTO; ADAM KUBERT AND DEAN WHITE; JAMES STOKOE; SKOTTIE YOUNG
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

NICK RUSSELL
COVER GALLERY DESIGN

ALLISON STOCK
ASST. EDITOR

DEVIN LEWIS
EDITOR

NICK LOWE
EXEC. EDITOR

AXEL ALONSO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PRESIDENT

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

WEEKS AGO...

"IT WAS ALL GOING SO WELL.

"I *ALMOST* HAD MYSELF CONVINCED EVERYTHING WAS OKAY.

"I WAS GRATEFUL TO BE HOME AGAIN.

"GRATEFUL TO BE WITH *FAMILY.*

UGH, NEW YORK SUCKS.

HEY, WATCH YOUR MOUTH, SUNSHINE.

THESE ***LOWER DEMONS*** DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR HELL-MARK, DO THEY?

NAH, BUT WE CAN STILL PUNCH 'EM REAL GOOD.

I LIKE YOUR STYLE, MANIA.

"I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER...

OKAY, FINE. NYC PIZZA ***IS*** BETTER.

"...NOTHING THAT GOOD CAN LAST.

SAME TIME TOMORROW NIGHT?

YOU BET, COACH!

DO YOUR HOMEWORK.

YOU'RE NOT MY MOM.

BETA DEPARTING. ALPHA IS ALONE. YOU SURE THIS TECH CAN WITHSTAND ALPHA?

HE'S THE WEAKER OF THE TWO. AND HE'S THE ORIGINAL MAKE AND MODEL. HENCE THE "ALPHA." NOW **MOVE** BEFORE HE--

WE'RE ALONE NOW. YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING ME ALL NIGHT...

...LET'S DO THIS!

NOT THE *TALKING* TYPE, *HUH?* HOW ABOUT WE GET THAT MASK OF YOURS OFF, AND SEE WHAT--

FWOOSH

NYARGH!

BIG MISTAKE, PAL. NOW YOU'VE MADE US...

...ANGRY!

THIS WAS YOUR PLAN? GET BEATEN DOWN?

NOT EXACTLY...

...JUST NEEDED... TO GET...YOU CLOSE...

811

GAH!

YOU'RE GONNA PAY FOR THAT, PAL!

NYARRRRRGH!

AAAAAAARGH!

EASY, VENOM, IT'S JUST ME.

SNYARGH!

BUDDY... IT'S ME. JUST CALM DO--

VENOM, WAIT!

NOT SO TOUGH WITHOUT YOUR FRIEND, EH--?

STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM ME AND MY FRIEND, PAL.

VENOM, **WAIT!**

-KZZT- SITREP, OVER. -BZZKKZZT- YOUR VITALS ARE SPIKING.

I'M FINE, I'M FINE. THE SUIT IS DONE, THOUGH. DON'T WORRY. IT SERVED ITS PURPOSE...

...THE PACKAGE HAS BEEN SEPARATED AND IS IN THE OPEN.

EXCELLENT WORK, **AGENT WAMBAUGH.** EXFIL TEAM IS EN ROUTE. WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF THERE IN MINUTES.

"I KNEW MY PARTNER WAS HURT.

"I SEARCHED EVERYWHERE FOR HIM.

HE WAS HERE, I CAN FEEL IT. AND HE'S STILL IN *PAIN.*

"WHEN I LOST HIS TRAIL...

"...I LOST *HOPE.*

"WHICH IS WHY I'M *HERE.*"

AND I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU ALL FOR LISTENING TONIGHT.

I JUST... I JUST HOPE MY PARTNER--MY *FRIEND*-- HAS SOMEONE HE CAN TALK TO NOW.

I HOPE HE'S NOT *ALONE.*

IT WAS ALL GOING SO WELL.

I *ALMOST* HAD MYSELF CONVINCED EVERYTHING WAS OKAY.

BUT, THEN...

HSS!

...NOW ALL I FEEL IS ANGER.

AND I AM ASHAMED TO SAY...

...IT FEELS GOOD.

NO...NO... I'M NOT...THIS ISN'T ME...THIS ISN'T...

I TRIED TO FIGHT THIS FEELING.

...ME...

BUT THERE IS NO ME...

YOU OKAY, FELLA?

...THERE IS NO ME...

WOZZAT?

...THERE IS ONLY...

MRRRMFF!

...US.

DEPENDENCE DAY

ROBBIE THOMPSON WRITER
GERARDO SANDOVAL ARTIST
DONO SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA COLOR ARTIST

VENOM

COVER GALLERY

IN THE CHARACTER'S NEAR 30-YEAR HISTORY, VENOM HAS BEEN FEATURED IN DOZENS OF LIMITED SERIES, EVENT SPECIALS AND EVEN A FEW ONGOING SERIES--INCLUDING THE HUMBLE COMICS MAG YOU'RE HOLDING IN YOUR HANDS ***RIGHT NOW!***

IN THAT TIME, THE CHARACTER HAS SQUARED OFF AGAINST SPIDER-MAN AND A HANDFUL OF OTHER HEROES, TRAVELED THROUGH THE GALAXY AS AN AGENT OF THE COSMOS AND, ABOVE ALL, LETHALLY PROTECTED THE INNOCENTS OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE!

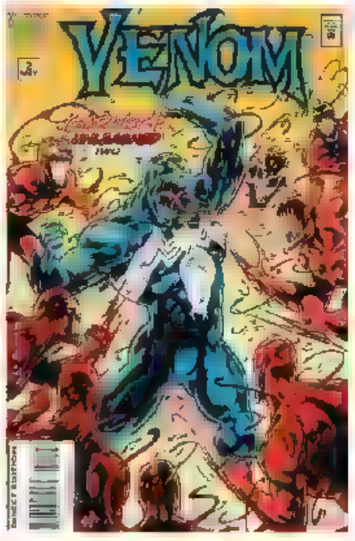
SO TAKE A LOOK BACK THROUGH YESTERYEAR, TRUE BELIEVER, AND FEAST YOUR EYES ON THIS COLLECTION OF COVERS ASSEMBLED IN THE HALLOWED HALLS OF THE HOUSE OF IDEAS BY THE MIGHTY MARVEL BULLPEN!

- EDITOR

VENOM
SYMBIOTE SIEGE!

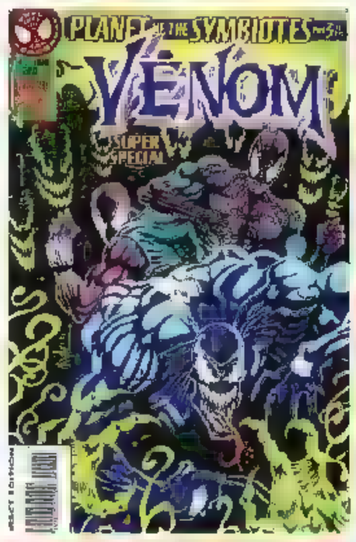
VENOM
ANXIETY
DEADLY REUNION!

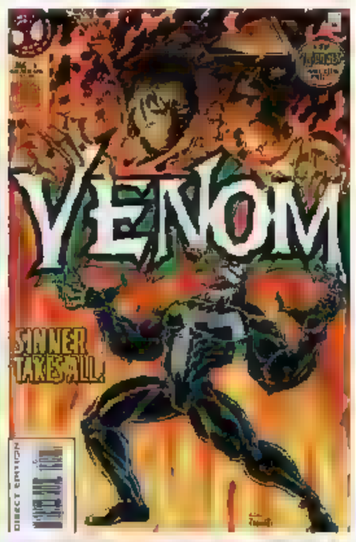
VENOM


VENOM

CARNAGE
VENOM

VENOM
CARNAGE


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES
VENOM
SUPER SPECIAL


VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL

VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL
EAT THIS!

THE RIDE OF
VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL

VENOM

VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL
TRUE ROMANCE

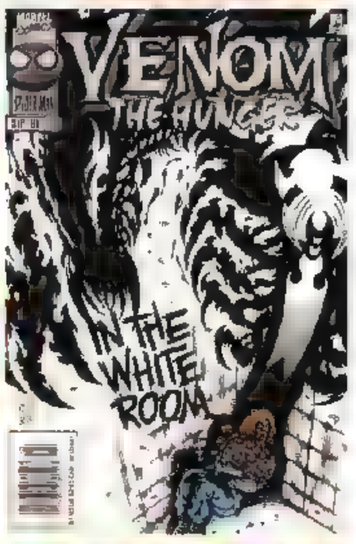
The NEW SPIDER-MAN
VENOM
ALONG CAME A SPIDER...

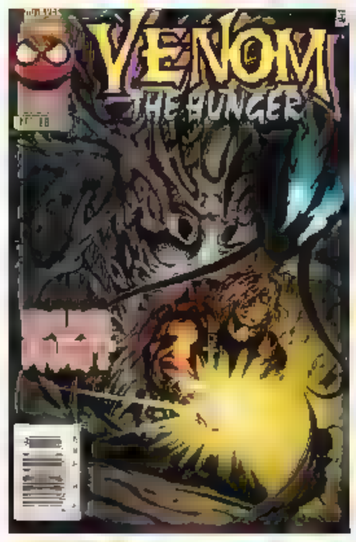
VENOM
ALONG CAME A SPIDER...

VENOM
ALONG CAME A SPIDER...

VENOM

VENOM
THE HUNGER
CITY OF DREAMS


VENOM
THE HUNGER
IN THE WHITE ROOM

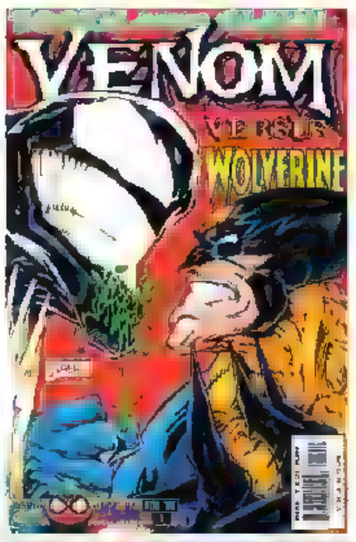

VENOM
THE HUNGER

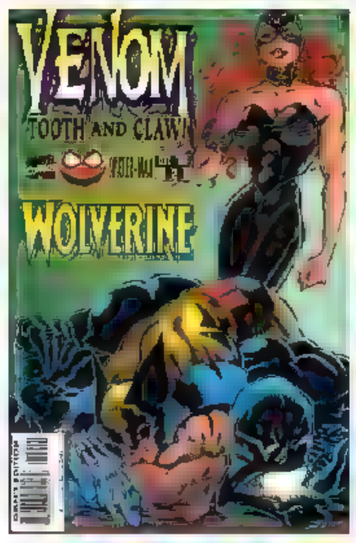
VENOM
THE HUNGER

VENOM
THE HUNTED
#12

VENOM
THE HUNTED

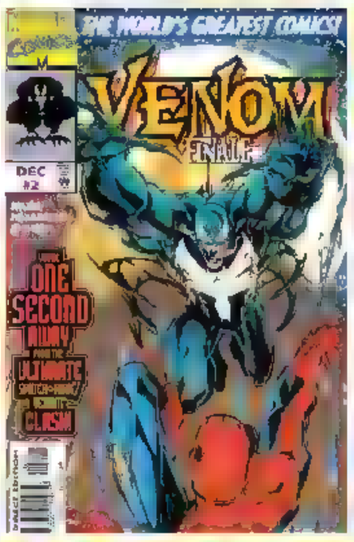
VENOM
THE HUNTED
TAKE THE "A" TRAIN...


VENOM
THE RESCUE OF
WOLVERINE


VENOM
TOOTH AND CLAW!
WOLVERINE

TOOTH AND CLAW!
VENOM

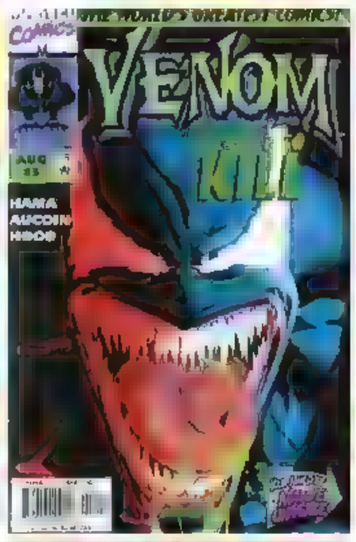
THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS!
VENOM
FINALE


THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS!
VENOM
FINALE
ONE SECOND AWAY

VENOM
FINALE

VENOM
KILL
I AM THE LAW!

VENOM
LICENSE TO KILL

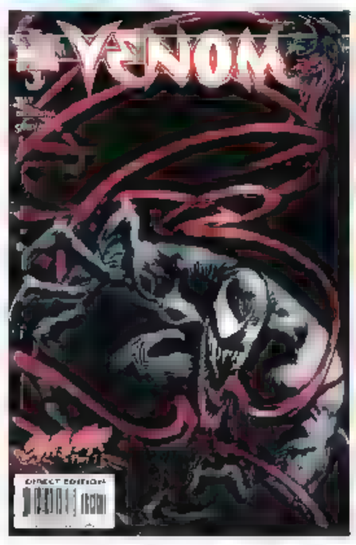

THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS!
VENOM
KILL

VENOM
ON TRIAL

VENOM
ON TRIAL
DAREDEVIL

VENOM
ON TRIAL

FLASHBACK
VENOM
SEED OF DARKNESS
KROBAA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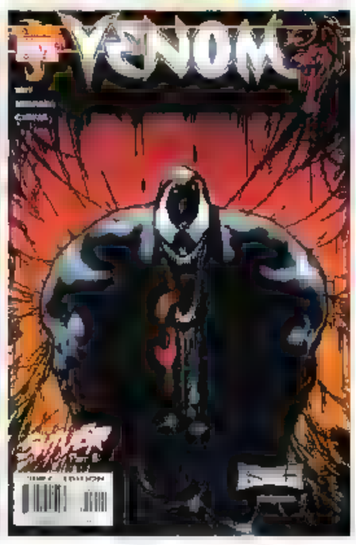
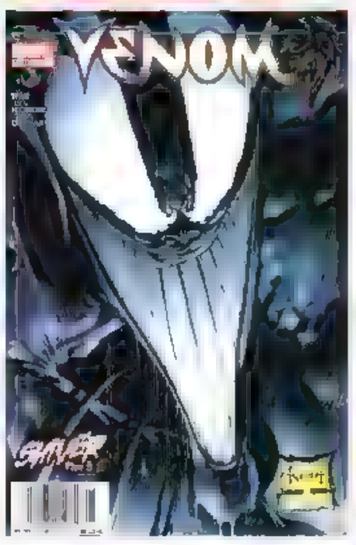

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM
CARNAGE


VENOM

VENOM

VENOM RUN PART 1

VENOM RUN PART 2

VENOM RUN PART 3

VENOM RUN PART 5

VENOM PATTERNS PART 1

VENOM

VENOM PATTERNS PART 3

VENOM TWIST PART 3

VENOM TWIST PART 4

VENOM TWIST PART 5

VENOM TWIST PART 6

VENOM DARK ORIGIN

VENOM DARK ORIGIN

VENOM DARK ORIGIN

VENOM DARK ORIGIN

VENOM DARK ORIGIN

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM SPIDER ISLAND

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM SPIDER ISLAND

VENOM

VENOM CIRCLE OF FOUR

VENOM WHICH WAY THE SECRET AVENGERS

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM

VENOM SAVAGE SIX PART 2

VENOM SAVAGE SIX PART 3

VENOM SAVAGE SIX PART 4

VENOM

VENOM MONSTERS OF EVIL PART 1

VENOM MONSTERS OF EVIL PART 2

VENOM MONSTERS OF EVIL PART 3

MINIMUM carnage PART 3
MINIMUM carnage PART 5
VENOM
JOIN THE REVOLUTION
CIRCLE OF FOUR
VENOM GOES TO HELL
VENOM SPACE KNIGHT
VENOM SPACE KNIGHT #1
VENOM: SPACE KNIGHT 11
VENOM: SPACE KNIGHT 12
CIVIL WAR II
#1
#2
#3
#4
#5
150TH ISSUE
VENOM IS BACK!

STRICKLAND MALL, QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK. YEARS AGO...

ONE SPIDER, TWO SPIDERS, THREE SPIDERS--

FLASHBACK

THE CONFLICTED CREATURE CALLED **VENOM** HAS GONE THROUGH MANY CHANGES OVER THE YEARS; THIS IS A STORY BEFORE THOSE CHANGES.

--FOUR!

SPAK

MALLED!

DAVID MICHELINIE WRITER RON LIM PENCILER
JOHN LIVESAY INKER LEE LOUGHRIDGE COLORIST

YES, YES, I KNOW IT'S MORE LIKE FOUR DOZEN...

...FIVE DOZEN, 10 DOZEN...

--BUT WHO'S COUNTING? BESIDES, PLAYTIME'S OVER--

--AND I'M STILL BORED. STAKEOUTS ARE SUCH A BOTHER.

BUT ***TEDIUM*** IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR JUSTICE!

SPIDER-MAN DESTROYED MY CAREER, SPURNED YOU WHEN YOU SOUGHT TO JOIN HIM AS A LIVING COSTUME, A ***PARTNER.***

BUT THIS COULD FINALLY BE OUR CHANCE FOR ***RETRIBUTION!***

A CRIMINAL GANG HAS BEEN ROBBING SHOPPING CENTERS, BRUTALIZING CIVILIANS.

AN IRRESISTIBLE TEMPTATION FOR THAT SELF-PROCLAIMED ***"HERO"*** TO SWING IN AND GRAB SOME GLORY!

POLICE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THE MISCREANTS WILL STRIKE NEXT, BUT AS EDDIE BROCK, I WAS A ***REPORTER.*** AND GOOD REPORTERS SOMETIMES FIND SOURCES IN THE CRIMINAL UNDERWORLD.

BROCK'S PROVED TO BE MOST COOPERATIVE... WHEN ***WE*** ASKED THE QUESTIONS!

WE ATTACK!

REEEREEEEREEEE

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO HOPE THAT--*EH?* AN ALARM?

YESSSS!

OUTTA THE WAY, SLOWPOKES, AN' YA WON'T GET HURT!

MAYBE!

SHHH! WE HAVE TO BE CAUTIOUS.

IF WE SHOW OURSELF AND SPIDER-MAN DOESN'T ARRIVE, HE'LL BE FOREWARNED NEXT TIME.

WE'LL SIMPLY STAY PUT, OUT OF SIGHT, AND WAIT FOR--

NO, PLEASE! D-DON'T KILL ME--!

BAD NEWS, SMART GUY: TRIPPIN' THAT ALARM WAS A BIG MISTAKE!

THE GOOD NEWS?

YOU WON'T BE MAKIN' ANY *MORE!*

K-KLIK

PLIP

THAT NOBLE GUARDIAN WAS MERELY DOING HIS JOB! HE IS INNOCENT OF WRONGDOING!

KAKLEESH

WHICH IS MORE THAN WE CAN SAY FOR YOU!

KRAK KRAK

GUNS. WHEN WILL PEOPLE LEARN??

GUNS...

PLIP

...HURT!

PHOOMP

AAAGGH!

I DON'T GET IT! I'D SWEAR THAT PSYCHO WAS RIGHT **BEHIND** ME!

WHERE'D HE GO?

"NONE ARE SO BLIND...

"...AS THOSE WHO WILL NOT SEE!"

GLLK!

EVER.

AGAIN.

HAVE YOU BEEN DAMAGED? DO YOU REQUIRE ASSISTANCE?

K-KEEP AWAY FROM ME! S-STAY BACK--!

BDAM BDAM

YOUR AGGRESSION IS...

...PUZZLING.

D-DON'T HURT ME! HURT *HER* INSTEAD!

YOU WERE ENTRUSTED WITH THE SAFETY OF THESE PEOPLE, WITH THEIR *LIVES.*

THIS IS HOW YOU HONOR THAT *RESPONSIBILITY?*

WE ABANDONED OUR CHANCE TO PUNISH A MUCH WORSE VILLAIN TO PROTECT *YOU!*

APPARENTLY, WE WERE IN ERROR.

YOU...

...ARE NOT...

...INNOCENT!

MUH...MUH... MONSTER!

CORRECT, MADAM.

BUT HE WON'T HARM YOU NOW.

MOMENTS LATER...

BETRAYAL HAUNTS US.

FIRST AT THE HANDS OF ***EMPLOYERS*** TO WHOM I PLEDGED MY LOYALTY, THEN BY THAT SELF-RIGHTEOUS SPIDER-MAN WHO REJECTED YOU.

AND NOW, BY THE VERY COWARD WE SOUGHT TO ***PROTECT!*** WILL WE EVER ESCAPE THE KISS OF JUDAS...?

WHAT? WHY...YES. HOW ASTUTE! BETRAYAL IS ACTUALLY ***GOOD!***

IT FEEDS OUR RAGE, JOINS US WITH THE STRENGTH TO BRING JUSTICE!

FOR APART, WE WERE VICTIMS. BUT TOGETHER...

...WE...

...ARE...

VENOM!

THE END!

SYMBIWROTE

ALLISON STOCK
ASSISTANT EDITOR

DEVIN LEWIS
EDITOR

NICK LOWE
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

AXEL ALONSO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

BLACK AND WHITE AND RED ALL OVER!

Hello, in here, out there, around the world and aboard all the ships at sea! VENOM editor Devin Lewis reporting to you live and in-print for this, a very special OVERSIZED 150th issue featuring your favorite symbiotic web-slinger!

This issue has been in the works for MONTHS! I took over as VENOM editor way back in June of last year, after the terrific Robbie Thompson/Gerardo Sandoval VENOM: SPACE KNIGHT volume (if you haven't read it, GO GET IT!), and one of the first things I did was task Spider-Office intern extraordinaire, Annalise Bissa, to do some digging into the character's history. Annalise's research revealed that within six months, this volume of the VENOM series would bring us to this very special milestone.

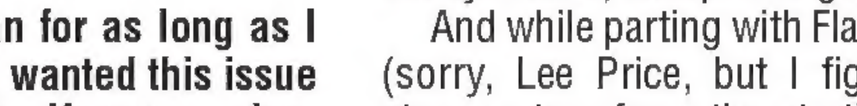
I've been a Venom fan for as long as I could read comics, and I wanted this issue to stand apart from the Venom series, specials, and spectaculars that have come before it. Enter our guest artist: Tradd Moore!

I first reached out to Tradd for this project in November of last year, six months prior to the time of this very writing! It took some pleading from your favorite editor, Marvelites, but we got 'im! And, boy, am I so glad that we did! Tradd's work is some of the craziest, most expressive and action-packed work in comics today, and he took Mike's already-fantastic script and ran with it. Ask Allison and Nick--I was GIDDY every time one of Tradd's pages came in. I'd print 'em out and run down the hallowed halls of the Marvel Offices with them like a kid on Christmas morning! CAN YOU BLAME ME?!

But that wasn't all we had up our sleeves for this issue! If there's one question that's plagued my inbox since taking over as VENOM editor, it's what happened to Flash Thompson. Flash has been a part of the Spider-Man tapestry for years, and if you Mighty Marvelites were worried we'd just left him in the dust, WELL NOW YOU KNOW THE TRUTH! It was a real treat to be able to reunite Robbie and Gerardo to complete their story with Flash and Agent Venom. And if you're wondering what's next for Flash, KEEP READING, TRUE BELIEVERS!

Last but not least, what a treat it was to get Venom co-creator David Michelinie on board for another adventure set in the LETHAL PROTECTOR-era with none other than industry legend Ron Lim. Loyal VENOM readers will know that I hate Venom's tongue to a perhaps-unreasonable degree, but SINCE IT WAS ERA-APPROPRIATE, I encouraged Ron to have some fun with it, and I'm glad I did!

But, hey, enough jibber-jabber from me! Let's see what you folks out in Mighty Marveldom have to say!



Dear SymbiWrote,

When I put issue #6 back into its slipcase, I cracked a grin I've been waiting to crack for thirteen years.

I never would have imagined that the identity of Venom would embark on the twists and turns it has, that one day the concept of the character wouldn't even include Eddie at all. I always figured Mac Gargan would be temporary, and when Flash came along, I was dumbfounded at the start - as I would be when I eventually had to face up to the very real truth that he was as good a Venom as anyone ever was. I LOVED Flash as Venom despite being a fan of Eddie's since I was a kid. Point in fact, by the end of VENOM: SPACE KNIGHT, there wasn't anybody I'd rather have joined with the symbiote, except one guy.

And while parting with Flash is bittersweet (sorry, Lee Price, but I figured you for a stopgap too, from the start), I'm very, very much looking forward to seeing how we'll explore Eddie and the symbiote once more - two personalities who've changed so much since the last time they were together, who must surely need to learn to work with each other again, and how these notions can be reconciled with the hilariously unhinged lunacy that so many of us remember and love Eddie's Venom for.

It's no stretch to say that it's a different Marvel Universe since the last time Eddie was in the black. The comics medium has evolved; a whole new generation of writers with fresh approaches graces Marvel's pages now, and I cannot wait to see what Costa and future writers will do with my favorite screwball symbiote team.

It's been a long wait, at times painful, but I knew it'd happen someday. Thanks so much for finally bringing them together again.

Dave S.
Montreal, Quebec
Venom fan since '89

Couldn't agree with you more, Dave. I was the Spidey-Office intern when Agent Venom made his debut, and I wasn't sure how I'd feel about the character. But, like you, I warmed to Flash as Venom quite quickly, and bittersweet is the only word for his time as Venom coming to a close. But, as you can see from this very issue, Flash's time as Venom may be over, but his story is not. Keep your eyes peeled across your favorite Spidey books over the next few months, and I think you'll be pleasantly surprised. Thanks for reading!

I hope this letter appears in Eddie's Clubhouse! Are we doing Eddie's Clubhouse again? Well either way, I hope this reaches the dudes making the Venom series. It kicks butt. That poor symbiote can't catch a break, the second it's all heroic, some sociopath comes along and makes it do bad stuff. When it was announced online that Eddie Brock was returning to his position as the host of Venom, I symbiote screeched. Well, I screamed like a little girl actually, but...point is, I am excited.

Cheers on the big #150, can't wait to read it!

A symbiote fan named Jesse

Thanks, Jesse! We're still SymbiWrote for now, but maybe Eddie's Clubhouse will make a return at some point in the future... Hope this issue lived up to your expectations! You won't believe what's coming!

Hey there, beautiful people! I've got a question that's been eating at my brain for a bit now. Is Anti-Venom an actual symbiote? We need to know! For science. Thanks for all the awesome reading and I'm really looking forward to "VENOMVERSE!"

Big V.

This is another question that's popped up a lot, and since we got to see Tradd's rendition of Anti-Venom in pages 2-3 of this story, I figured now was as good a time as any to answer it! TECHNICALLY speaking, Anti-Venom was not a sentient symbiote, like Venom. It was, in fact, reanimated traces of symbiotic material left within Eddie Brock's body that were mutated after being exposed to Mister Negative's unique abilities.

Hey, since you mentioned it--what's VENOMVERSE? First I'm hearing of it...

Dear Team Venom,

I've been a Venomaniac for nearly two decades. I was first exposed to Venom and the symbiotes, like many from my generation, through *Spider-Man: The Animated Series.* Though I missed out on regularly collecting any Eddie Brock/Venom series as they were published, I became a regular Venom subscriber at the very start of Flash Thompson's run as Agent Venom.

I've liked every Venom host, from the original, Eddie, to poor Angelo Fortunato and Flash--I even like Mac Gargan! If anyone is familiar with The Venom Site's podcast, *We Are Venomaniacs!*, of which I am a host, they know I and my co-hosts have had little love for Venom's most recent host, Lee Price. So, when Marvel announced that Eddie would be returning as the host of Venom, I was immensely relieved and only slightly melancholic.

Eddie is my favorite fictional character of all time. That's no secret--I wear it as a badge of geek honor. I've loved his oft-misunderstood character progression from the host of Venom to cancer patient, and to becoming and losing Anti-Venom. He's had some great character growth that most people miss when they look at him. When he became the new Toxin host, I was a little disheartened by the regression in that progress; he was devolving back to his Lethal Protector ways. I loved his Lethal Protector days and firmly believe they were some of his best as Venom, but the way

he acted as Toxin felt like backpedaling in characterization.

I also believe that Eddie was at his prime in characterization as Anti-Venom. He was finally working toward a better future for himself. He was slowly becoming the hero he always imagined himself to be as Venom. While he regressed a bit on that forward progression as Toxin, he had a breakthrough recently under Gerry Conway's hand in CARNAGE #15 that gave me a glimmer of hope. (Props to Conway and co. for a great run on Carnage!) While I still lament that Eddie isn't going to be Anti-Venom again, I hope that as Venom once more, we'll see him in a better state than he was when he was Venom 13 years ago and during his Lethal Protector days. I hope Mike Costa and co. bring Eddie-Venom back as a "Lethal Protector PLUS." (Wherever Costa and co. go with him, I'll just be glad we no longer have Lee in control of the symbiote!)

Sincerely,
Orion P.
A Lifelong Venomaniac

Hi, Orion, and thanks for your letter! I've listened to a few episodes of your podcast, and it's great stuff! We here at Marvel love it when fans are passionate about these characters. So thank you for spreading the symbiotic word!

I wear my love of Eddie Brock as a badge of honor, as well, and I can only hope that this issue has done you proud!

Dear Venom Dudes,

Holy crap!

Issue #6 was amazing! Eddie Brock back as Venom?! About time! Don't get me wrong, I loved Flash Thompson as Venom, but there's just something about Eddie Brock being Venom that just feels right.

I really hope this is not just for a couple of issues and then Lee gets the symbiote back. It was an incredibly interesting dynamic where the symbiote wanted to be good and its host did not, but I just don't care for Lee that much. He's dark, he's troubled, yeah yeah. I will say this, though, his Venom/Misfits costume was pretty legit.

Thank you for bringing back Eddie Brock! I am really looking forward to #150!

Sincerely,
Matt W.

Dear SymbiWrote,

Just picked up the first three new issues of VENOM and was not disappointed. Venom has long been one of my all-time favorite characters and the Agent Venom/Flash Thompson run really revamped the character. Of course, I'll always love Eddie Brock as the Lethal Protector and Spidey's reluctant partner but this new run is definitely giving us a different look at Venom.

Usually the story focuses on the host as Venom leaving the Symbiote itself as an afterthought or influence, but for a change we're hearing a lot of Venom's inner thoughts and views. I like where this is going, the inner struggle of the symbiote trying to do good is an interesting take. The art is beautiful and really sets the mood. Hope to see some tie-in with Eddie Brock the man himself, as I recall he is now Toxin.

Please?

Mauricio S.

Thanks for writing, Mauricio! You're exactly right that we're hearing more of the symbiote's voice now than we ever have before. That was all Mike Costa's idea--he had a very specific vision for the symbiote's expression in this series, and he wanted to give it a chance to express itself in a way that it never had before. It sounds like he pulled it off, if you've enjoyed those first three issues as much as you seem to, and I hope this one didn't leave you disappointed!

Dear SYMBIWROTE,

I've been reading Venom's adventures regularly since ASM #374, and reading the current series has me thinking about the future of our favorite symbiote!! First and foremost, Angelo's story is compelling but I hope that his time as Venom is short-lived. He is unfortunately one of my least favorite Venom regulars. I think that we have enough people that have had the suit to go around for a while. In fact, why take the suit from Flash? So many people agree that he was perfect for it; possibly THE most perfect for it.

Quick side note, it's interesting that every person who has had the Venom costume starts out a villain (except Spidey, of course) and becomes a hero. Mac, of course, was one of the most brutal, and I think that he is the standard for the murderous side of Venom, and even he did SOME heroic stuff during DARK REIGN. Brock and Flash especially both hated Spidey, but when it came down to it, they both proved to be two of the biggest heroes in the Marvel Universe (yes, I said it about Brock--*Spider-Island* for example). I guess that this is all because they both always wanted to be heroes and had twisted moments along the way. My FAVORITE Brock moment is when he exposed Mister Negative. It felt like he had such a sense of fulfillment and that his life was coming around full circle--as getting a similar story wrong is what led him down the dark path in the first place.

Brock as Anti-Venom was, to me, his perfect evolution. I guess things change, but so far he seems to be devolving instead of evolving for the most part (Brock's truce with Flash and also the CARNAGE series were step in the right direction though--finally).

I'll keep reading but I hope that things work out in a cool way for Venom. With the suit actually experiencing being an intergalactic hero with Flash, and Brock being an antihero, I can only imagine how things would be if Brock gets his original suit back.

Whatever the case, I'll keep reading.

Keep protecting the innocents.

Joel G.

Thanks for reading and for being such a loyal Spider-Fan, Joel! There's nothing better for the Spider-Team than hearing from longtime readers like you. Gerry Conway did some terrific work with Eddie, and you have this editor's word that we're going to be loyal to his character development in that series!

Looks like we've got room for exactly one more letter, Venomaniacs! So, let's hear from a new reader!

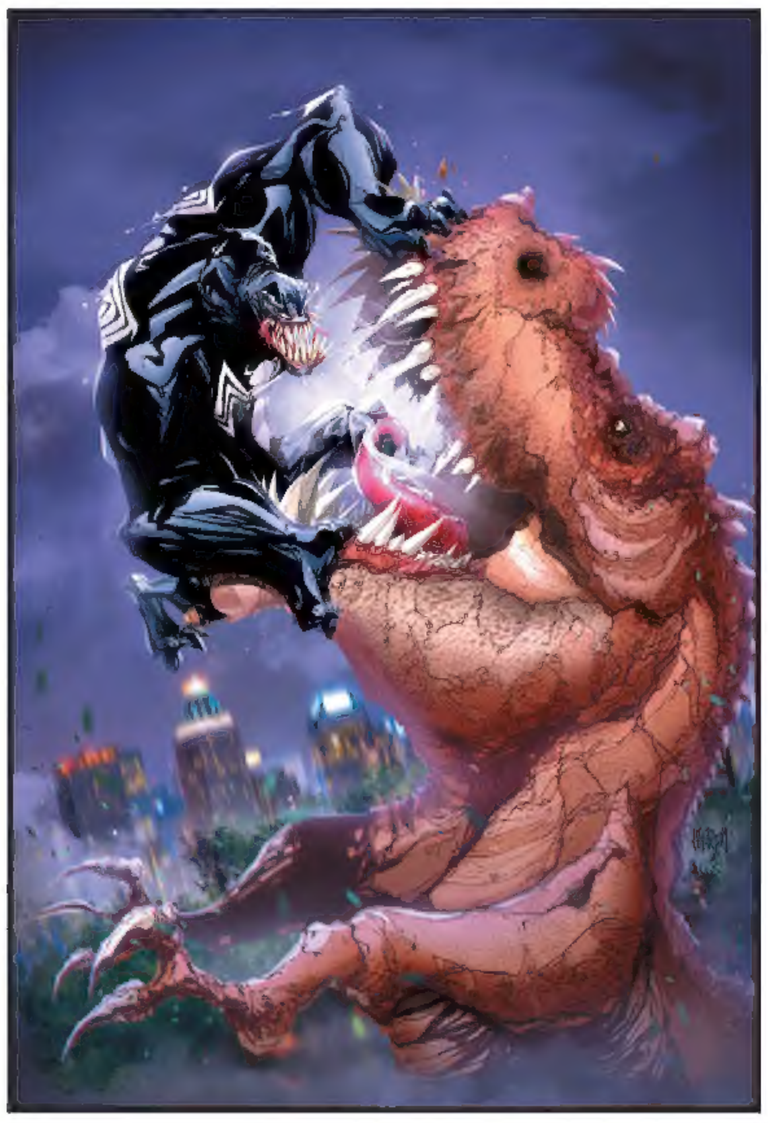
Dear Venom Team,

I have never read a Venom or Spider-Man book before so I honestly didn't know what to expect going in, but I have to say that I have fallen in love with this series. The storytelling has engulfed me in a way comics haven't in a long time and I honestly am surprised at every turn! The art is stellar, it really adds a whole new dimension to the book. Great job to everyone involved in crafting such a fun story and I cant wait to see where it goes.

Tyler B.
Prescott, AZ

NEVER READ A VENOM OR SPIDER-MAN BOOK BEFORE?! Oh, MAN, Tyler! HOW HAVE YOU LIVED?! Let me be the first to welcome you to the insane and beautiful world of Spidey comics. Hope you survive the experience...that's an X-Men reference, but it still applies!

That seems like as good a note as any to end on! Be sure to let us know how we're doing at SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM and be back here IN ONE MONTH for VENOM #151, featuring the return of Gerardo Sandoval on interior art duties and Eddie Brock squaring off against his first big-time Marvel Universe baddie... STEGRON THE DINOSAUR MAN! It will be... A LAND BEFORE CRIME! Don't miss it!



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